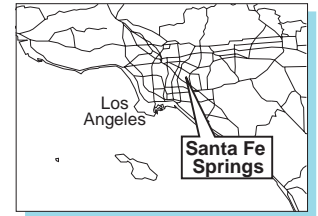




EPA

Waste Disposal, Inc. (WDI) Superfund Site



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 9 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA • AUGUST 2000

UPDATE ON WASTE DISPOSAL, INC. SUPERFUND SITE

This fact sheet provides an update on activities conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Waste Disposal, Inc. Group (WDIG) at the Waste Disposal Inc. Superfund Site (WDI site) in Santa Fe Springs, California. The WDIG is comprised of the parties named in the EPA's enforcement order to further the remedial design process for the WDI site. After completing the majority of the field investigation activities in 1999, both the EPA and the WDIG have compiled the data results into various technical reports. The WDIG has completed a liquids removal treatability study and has prepared a complete draft of a Supplemental Feasibility Study (SFS). The EPA is considering one additional treatability study proposed to be completed this Fall. Most recently, the EPA awarded a Superfund Redevelopment Pilot Grant to the City of Santa Fe Springs.

At a Glance...

- **Extent of Contamination further defined.**
- **Supplemental Feasibility Study underway.**
- **Liquids Removal Treatability Study completed.**
- **Proposal for Waste Excavation Treatability Study being considered.**
- **Superfund Redevelopment Grant Awarded to City of Santa Fe Springs.**

EXTENT OF CONTAMINATION FURTHER DEFINED

During the last several years, the EPA and the WDIG have completed significant additional investigations of the contamination at the WDI site. Based on these investigations, the extent of contamination has been defined well enough to now begin evaluating potential cleanup alternatives for the

site. The EPA and the WDIG are preparing final reports describing the results of these investigations. Some of these investigations are summarized in earlier fact sheets (see page 5 for more information).

The investigations conducted since 1997 have significantly clarified what we know about the location and extent of contamination for buried wastes, soil gas, perched liquids, and groundwater.

What we now understand to be the estimated extent of buried waste, soil gas, and perched liquids at the site is presented in Figure 1 on page 2. Figure 2 on page 3 presents the estimated extent of contamination in groundwater. Now that the extent of these contaminants is better understood, we will be reviewing a supplement to the earlier Feasibility Study, which will be used for revising the final remedy.

SUPPLEMENTAL FEASIBILITY STUDY UNDERWAY

The EPA and the WDIG have begun analyzing site data in order to develop alternatives for cleanup of the site. These various alternatives are described in a draft Supplemental Feasibility Study (SFS) Report being prepared by the WDIG. In the SFS, the alternatives will be evaluated and screened based on a variety of factors including overall protection of human health and the environment, compliance with laws and regulations, cost and effectiveness of the remedy.

When finalized, this draft SFS will be a supplement to the Feasibility Study completed in 1993, and will take into consideration the full estimated extent of the wastes at the site both in and around the reservoir, and in the perimeter areas of the site adjacent to and potentially underneath on-site buildings. The EPA is currently reviewing the draft SFS.

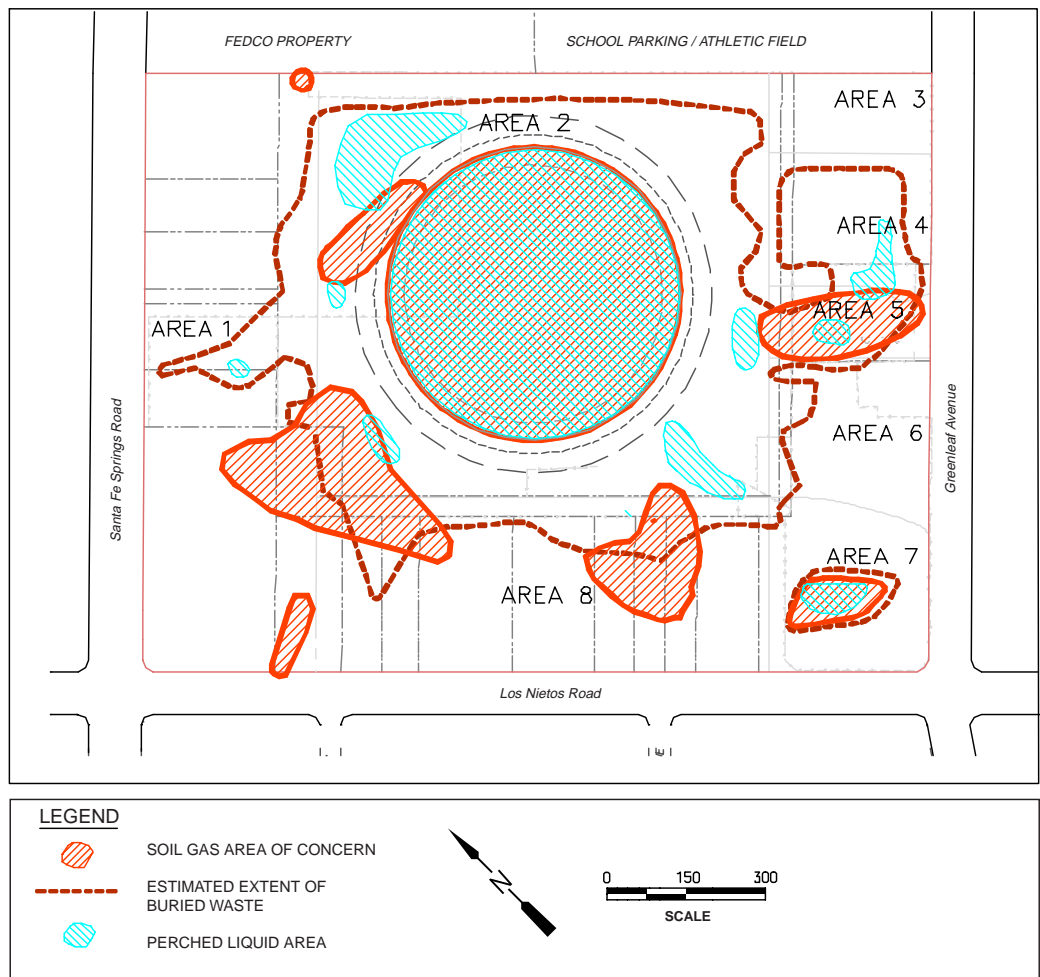


Figure 1: *Estimated extent of contamination in the following media areas: buried wastes, soil gas, and perched liquids*

How EPA Selects the Cleanup Alternative

Once the SFS is reviewed by the EPA and the State, and has final EPA approval, the EPA will issue a Proposed Plan summarizing all cleanup alternatives evaluated for the site in the SFS and identifying the EPA's preferred alternative. The purpose of the Proposed Plan is to seek comments from the public on the cleanup alternatives, including the EPA's preferred alternative, and on the information used to develop the alternatives. The EPA will consider the public comments received and select a cleanup remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be explained in the amended Record of Decision (ROD). The amended ROD and its Responsiveness Summary, which summarizes all significant comments and the EPA's response to them, will be available for public review at the information repositories. After the amended ROD is signed, the engineering phase of the project (Remedial Design or RD) will begin, when technical drawings and specifications are developed for the selected cleanup remedy. The actual construction or implementation phase follows the RD phase. Figure 3 presents the general sequence of all phases of the Superfund process for the WDI site. The EPA and the WDIG are currently working on the SFS. It is anticipated that a Proposed Plan and an amended ROD will be completed within the next year.

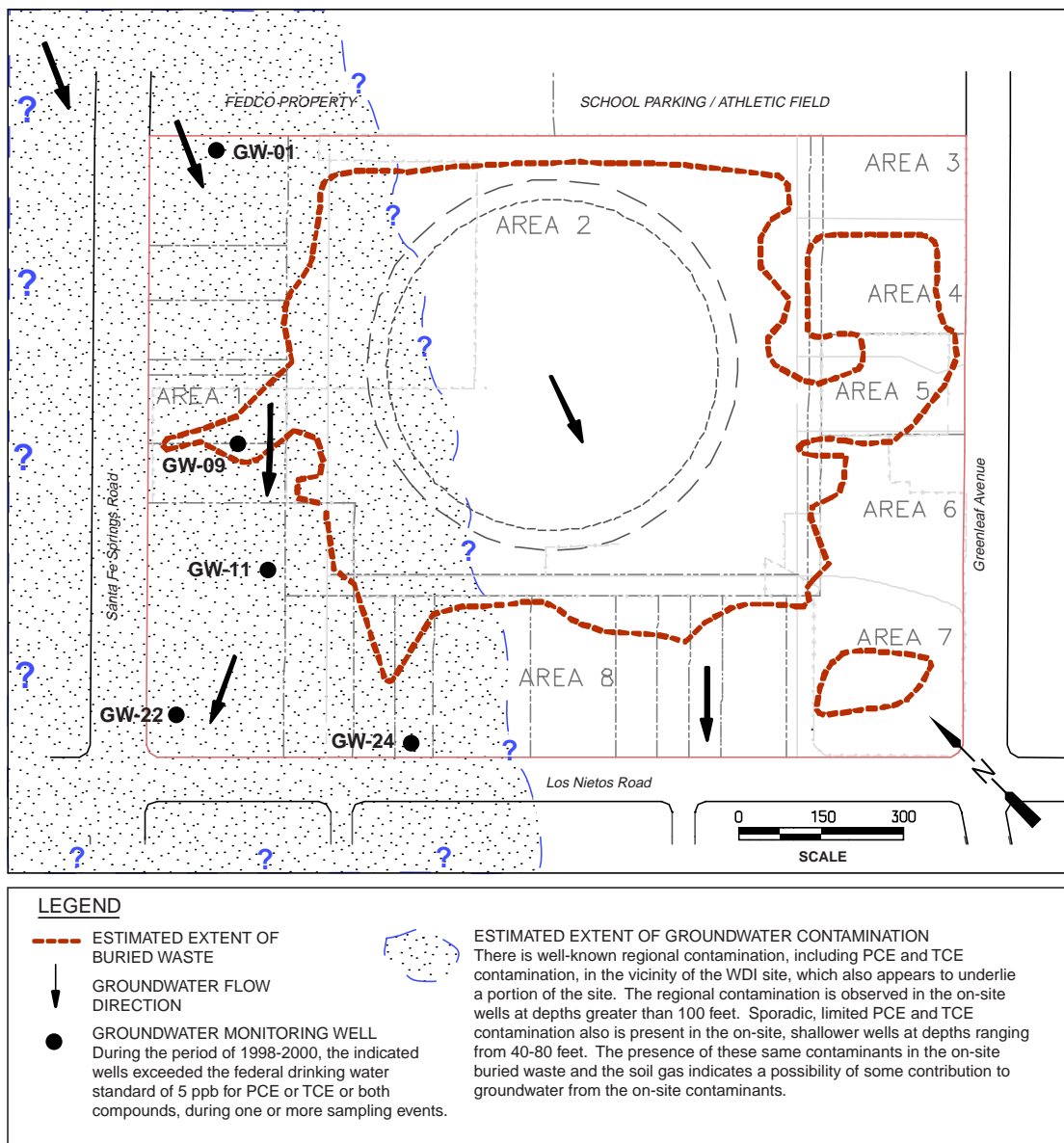


Figure 2: *Estimated extent of groundwater contamination*

LIQUIDS REMOVAL TREATABILITY STUDY COMPLETED

Beginning in June 1999, with the EPA's oversight, the WDIG conducted a Liquids Removal Treatability Study. The objectives of the study were to determine the feasibility of removing liquids from the reservoir and to provide data on the rate at which liquids could be removed. This study was completed in June 2000.

The study involved drilling 18 liquids extraction wells into the reservoir. Liquids were pumped out and piped to a temporary liquids treatment area located on-site. The treatment system consisted of an oil and water separator

and an aqueous-phase treatment unit. The separated oils were stored for future off-site disposal and the separated aqueous liquid was treated in an activated carbon unit to remove contamination. The liquids were then sampled for hazardous substances and disposed of at an off-site EPA-approved treatment and disposal facility. At the beginning of the treatability study, liquids were being extracted from the 18 wells at an approximate rate of 1600 gallons per day. By May 2000, the extraction rate had decreased to approximately 200 gallons per day.

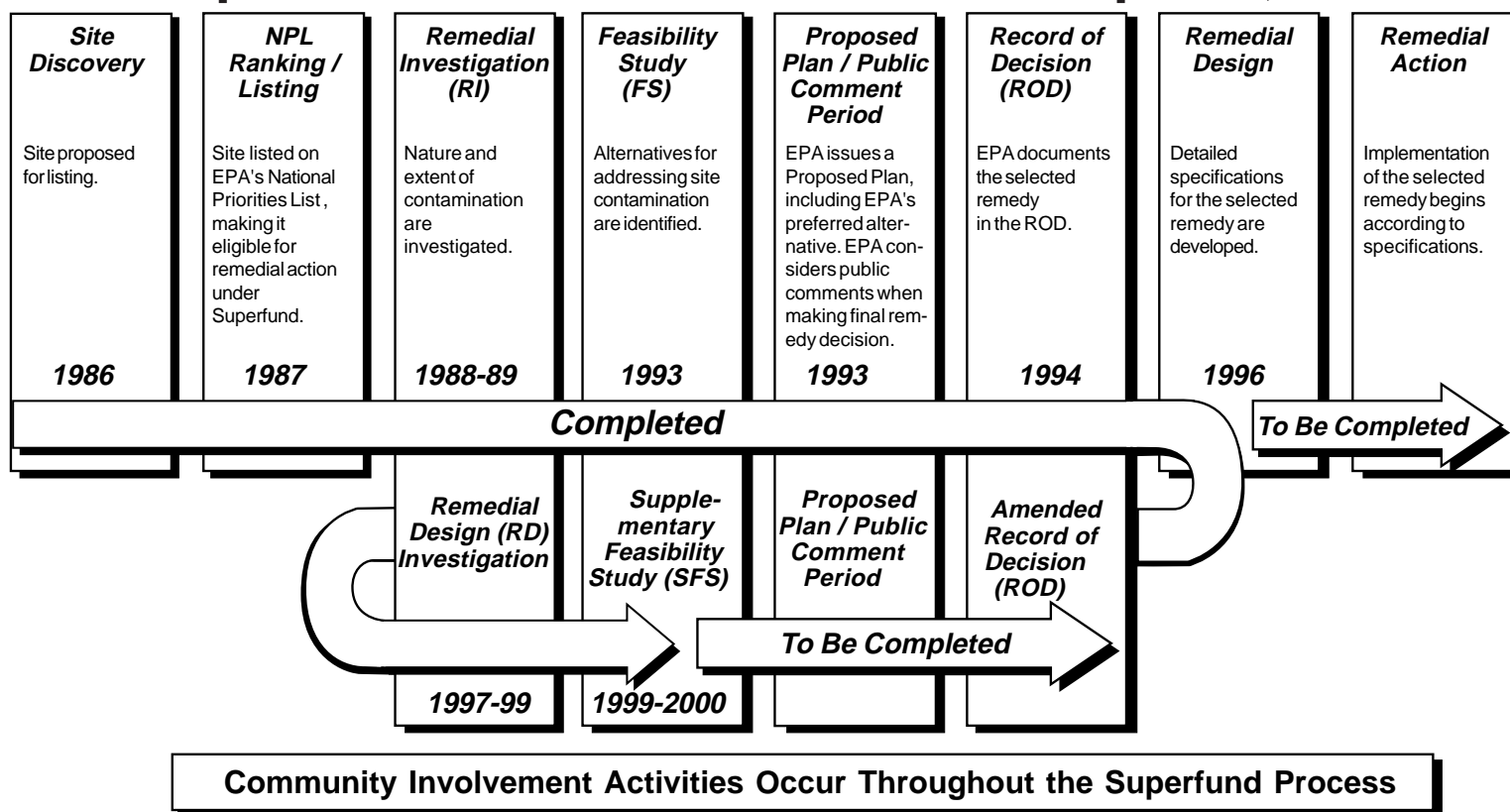
Because of continued decreasing liquid recovery rates, on June 1, 2000, the EPA allowed the WDIG to convert the pumping

and piping system to a manual recovery system for these remaining wells. The 18 extraction wells will continue to be monitored and bailed weekly for a period of three months, then monitored and bailed monthly thereafter. The manually collected, aqueous-phase liquids will continue to be treated in the temporary treatment unit on-site until design and construction of the final remedy.

As of June 1, 2000, a total of 128,000 gallons of aqueous-phase liquids and a total of 625 gallons of oily liquids were recovered from the reservoir. The oily liquids from the reservoir contained various hazardous substances, including: PCBs, benzene, chlorinated benzenes, vinyl chloride, toluene, naphthalene, and xylenes, and some tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE).

The treatability study successfully demonstrated that liquids could be removed from the reservoir and determined estimated removal rates. Information on the rate and feasibility of removal will be used in the final design for the liquids component of the remedy. A Liquids Removal Treatability Study Report will be completed by the WDIG in the near future.

The Superfund Process at the Waste Disposal, Inc. Site



PROPOSAL FOR A WASTE EXCAVATION TREATABILITY STUDY UNDER CONSIDERATION

The WDIG recently submitted a proposal to the EPA to conduct a Waste Excavation Treatability Study at the site in certain areas where buried waste is located, including several areas where waste is present adjacent to or underneath on-site buildings. The purpose of this study would be to determine the feasibility of excavating buried waste at the site and excavating near on-site buildings. This study would also provide data to fill information gaps regarding the extent of buried wastes and would evaluate the implementability of a partial excavation alternative for the SFS. Information gathered in the study would likely be included in the SFS. The EPA is considering the WDIG's proposal and plans to consult further with the potentially affected property and business owners about conducting such a study.

CITY RECEIVES EPA SUPERFUND REDEVELOPMENT GRANT

Last month, the EPA announced that the City of Santa Fe Springs was the recipient of a \$100,000 grant to assist in

redevelopment of the WDI Superfund site. The grant was one of 40 awarded nationally this year as part of a pilot program designed to assist local communities in evaluating future uses for Superfund sites.

The City plans on using the grant funds to create and implement a Master Plan or Specific Plan for redevelopment of the WDI site. The City's overall goal is to create a plan for reusing the WDI site that will be acceptable to the community and beneficial to the existing property owners. The City believes the WDI site is suitable for commercial or industrial development and will use the grant funds to develop a reuse plan that is compatible with the cleanup. The City also plans to complete a financial marketing analysis to ensure that any potential reuse options will benefit the community.

The EPA will be entering into a cooperative agreement with the City to provide the grant funds. Community involvement activities for the program are expected to begin this Fall. For more information on the Redevelopment Grant, contact Robert Orpin, Director, of the City of Santa Fe Springs Department of Planning and Development, at (562) 868-0511. Information about the Superfund Redevelopment Pilot Program is available on the Internet (see page 5 for more information).

HOW DOES THE SUPERFUND GRANT RELATE TO THE FINAL REMEDY?

The evaluation of cleanup alternatives, the publication of EPA's preferred cleanup alternative, and the selection of a final remedy based on specific evaluation criteria is the remedy selection process required by the National Contingency Plan (NCP) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as the Superfund law. In evaluating cleanup alternatives for a site, the EPA typically considers potential future uses of the site.

The City of Santa Fe Springs' goals under the EPA-funded Superfund Redevelopment Grant are to evaluate potential future uses, including commercial or industrial development, for the WDI site. The City intends to involve a wide range of stakeholders to evaluate various potential future uses. The EPA is aware of the benefits of exploring future land use opportunities with communities when choosing and performing the final cleanup. Once the EPA has selected a final remedy in the amended ROD, future use considerations could be incorporated into the design phase of the final remedy. Any future use must be consistent with the final remedy; in other words, it must be designed to be fully protective and meet the requirements of the amended ROD. With input from the City based on the results of the work done under their grant, the EPA will be able to consider potential future uses of the site when selecting the final remedy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET

Previous fact sheets and other information about the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund site, are available on the EPA's Region 9 World Wide Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/sfund/npl/siteinfo.htm>

February 1999 ----- Groundwater Analysis Completed

May 1999 ----- Liquids Removal Field Study to Begin in May

August 1999 ----- Results Of Remedial Design Investigation Site Conditions: Subsurface Gas and in-Building Air

August 1999 ----- Results Of Remedial Design Investigation Site Conditions: Extent Of Buried Wastes and Liquids

Other EPA Web sites:

EPA Region 9 Solid & Hazardous Waste Programs: ----- www.epa.gov/region09/waste

EPA Region 9: ----- www.epa.gov/region09

EPA Superfund Program: ----- www.epa.gov/superfund

EPA Superfund Program/Information for Communities: ----- www.epa.gov/superfund/citizens/index.htm

EPA Headquarters: ----- www.epa.gov

EPA Superfund Redevelopment Initiative: ----- www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/index.htm



Mailing List Coupon...

If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail and would like to be included on the mailing list to receive future EPA mailings about the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund site, please fill out the coupon and return to the address below. You may also return this form via fax to: 415-744-1796 or provide the information via email to: mccracken.catherine@epa.gov

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE*: _____ FAX*: _____ EMAIL*: _____

ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION*: _____

*Optional items.

Please return to:

Catherine McCracken, Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA, 75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

For additional information

For additional copies of this fact sheet or for other information on the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund Site, please contact:

Andria Benner

Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA Region IX, Superfund Division
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-7-1)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Telephone: (415) 744-2361
Fax: (415) 744-2180
E-mail: benner.andria@epa.gov

Catherine McCracken

Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region IX, Superfund Division
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Telephone: (415) 744-2182
Fax: (415) 744-1796
E-mail: mccracken.catherine@epa.gov

Information Repositories

The EPA places copies of pertinent documents related to the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund site at the local information repositories:

City of Santa Fe Springs Library
11700 Telegraph Road
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
Telephone: (562) 868-7738

St. Paul's High School Library
9635 Greenleaf Avenue
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670



The primary information repository for the Waste Disposal, Inc. site is located at:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Superfund
Records Center
95 Hawthorne Street, Suite 403S
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901
Telephone: (415) 536-2000

*Printed on 30% Postconsumer
Recycled/Recyclable Paper*



**or you may leave a message on EPA's Office of Community Involvement toll-free line at
(800) 231-3075 and your call will be returned.**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901
Attn: Catherine McCracken

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

Address Correction Requested

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
U.S. EPA
Permit No. G-35